

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 EPG-02 AID-05

SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

OMB-01 /101 W

-----040512Z 057916 /12

R 031705Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5074

INF AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

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BRUSSELS ALSO FOR EC

GENEVA FOR MTN

PARIS ALSO FOR OECD

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, MTN, IT

SUBJECT: CURRENT GOI VIEWS ONMTN

1. EMBASSY BELIEVES IT MAY BE USEFUL TO SUPPLEMENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN BRUSSELS AND GENEVA ON GOI VIEWS OF MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS (MTN) AT THIS STATE. RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH GOI OFFICIALS SUCH AS RAFFAELLO TRIOLI (DIRECTOR GENERAL, COMMERCIAL AGREEMENTS, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE), FRANCESCO SIMEONE (DIRECTOR GATT, ITALO-U.S. AFFAIRS, ETC., MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE) AND TEODORO FUXA (DIRECTOR EUROPEAN COMMUNITY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND GATT AFFAIRS, MFA) INDICATE GOI REMAINS ESSENTIALLY PESSIMISTIC ABOUT WHAT CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED AT MTN.

2. THESE OFFICIALS SAY NOW AS THEY DID SIX MONTHS AGO, THAT NEGOTIATORS AT MTN SHOULD NOT TRY FOR MORE THAN A "SMALL DEAL" OR "MINI-PACKAGE." THEY WERE NOT SURE WHAT ELEMENTS IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO INCLUDE IN SUCH A PACKAGE, BUT THEY DID

MENTION TWO POSSIBILITIES: FURTHER MODERATE TARIFF CUTS AND SOME NEW RULES ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT THOUGH WATERED DOWN FROM PROPOSALS ADVANCED AT MTN. THEY ARGUE THAT TOO MANY COUNTRIES HAVE SUFFERED RECENTLY THE EFFECTS OF RECESSION OR ARE STILL SUFFERING ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES, THAT CONDITIONS HAVE CHANGED VASTLY SINCE THE CURRENT ROUND WAS CONCEIVED AND THAT, CONSEQUENTLY, IT IS SIMPLY A MATTER OF PUTTING THE BEST FACE ON A BAD SITUATION. THEY ARE QUITE FIRM, HOWEVER, IN WANTING TO BRING MTN TO "SUCCESSFUL" CONCLUSION.

3. TRIOLI GAVE SPECIAL EMPHASIS TO DANGERS PRESENTED BY ATTITUDE OF LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS WANTING ONLY NEW RIGHTS OUT OF MTN AND NO RESPONSIBILITIES. HE BELIEVES THAT PRESSURE LDCS PUTTING BEHIND THEIR VIEWS THREATENS TO UNRAVEL ENTIRE STRUCTURE OF WORLD TRADE.

4. SIMEONE MAINTAINS AN AMBIVALENT VIEW OF U.S. ROLE IN MTN. HE BELIEVES THAT DEGREE OF PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS AND LIBERALIZATION THAT CAN BE EXPECTED TO RESULT FROM THEM ARE ALMOST ENTIRELY DEPENDENT ON AMOUNTS OF ENERGY THE U.S. PUTS INTO THE MTN. ON THE OTHER HAND, HE DOUBTS THAT MUCH PROGRESS CAN REALLY BE ACHIEVED WHERE IT COUNTS--IN SIGNIFICANT LIBERALIZATION OF NON-TARIFF MEASURES--BECAUSE U.S. CONGRESS WOULD NOT ACCEPT IT. THIS GENERALLY PESSIMISTIC VIEW OF THE PROTECTIONIST MOOD OF CONGRESS IS ECHOED BY FUXA AND SEVERAL OTHER MFA OFFICIALS WHO HANDLE TRADE MATTERS. GARDNER

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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